

IAC-D-100/51
5 November 1957

Validity Study of NIE 23-56, "Political Outlook in West Germany," published 17 April 1956; NIE 11-3-56, "Probable Short-Term Communist Capabilities and Intentions Regarding Berlin," published 28 February 1956; and NIE 12-57, "Stability of the Soviet Satellite Structure," published 19 February 1957.

1. The projection of main trends in NIE 23-56 has stood up well. The paper was too conservative on Adenauer's chances to obtain a majority in the recent elections, and overestimated the attraction to West Germans of parties advocating a more independent course in foreign relations. This estimate was influenced by the greater appeal which Soviet policy was exercising in West Germany during the period after Geneva and prior to the outbreaks in Poland and Hungary.

2. The estimate on Berlin, NIE 11-3-56, has proven to be generally correct. NIE 12-57, insofar as East Germany is treated (para. 22), has also proven to be sound.

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